

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO OASD/ISA/FMRA

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AFSC/ DOSF ANDREWS AFB

AFSWC KIRTLAND AFB

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226733

E.O. 11652: ADS-DECLAS WHEN OPERATING RIGHTS GRANTED

TAGS: MARR, OCLR, CA

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR FOREIGN OPERATING RIGHTS, PROJECT 9259

REF: STATE 58190

1. THE U.S. AIR FORCE SPECIAL WEAPONS CENTER (AFSWC) IS SUPPORTING THE U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION IN A PROGRAM (DESIGNATED PROJECT 9259) TO STUDY AURORAL PHENOMENA AND THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD STRUCTURES. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA COLLECTION ARE REQUIRED FROM AN AIRBORNE PLATFORM OVER SEVERAL SECTIONS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT, INCLUDING CANADA, WHERE THESE PHENOMENA ARE MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR AND WHERE GEOPHYSICAL CONDITIONS ARE MOST CONDUCTIVE TO SUCCESSFUL STUDY. DATA OBTAINED FROM THE AIRBORNE PLATFORM ARE TO BE CORRELATED WITH VELA SATELLITE DATA TAKEN AT THE SAME TIME. THIS PROGRAM OBJECTIVE WILL BE COMBINED WITH A
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SECOND OBJECTIVE, THAT OF OBTAINING DATA TO ASSESS THE IMPACT

THAT A FLEET OF SUPERSONIC JET TRANSPORTS WOULD HAVE ON THE EARTH'S CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY (SEE REFTEL). IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THESE STUDIES WILL ADVANCE BASIC SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE BY IMPROVING AND AUGMENTING EXISTING DATA AND RESEARCH ON AURORAL, MAGNET, AND CLIMATIC ATMOSPHERIC MECHANISMS.

2. THE DATA COLLECTION AIRCRAFT WILL BE AN INSTRUMENTED NC-135A (BOEING 707 EQUIVALENT), SERIAL NO. 60-369 OR 60-370. THESE AIRCRAFT HAVE OPTICAL WINDOWS ALONG THE RIGHT FUSELAGE AND TOP FOR SKYWARD AND HORIZONTALLY-MOUNTED OPTICAL EQUIPMENT SUCH AS PHOTOMETERS, SPECTROGRAPHS, INTERFEROMETERS, CAMERAS, AND ALL SKY CAMERAS. ALL EQUIPMENT IS PASSIVE IN NATURE AND OWNED BY AEC OR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

3. FLIGHTS WILL BE PROGRAMMED TO BEGIN IN EARLY DECEMBER 1973 AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT 3 TO 4 FLIGHTS PER YEAR WILL BE REQUIRED. PROPOSED STAGING BASES ARE KIRTLAND AFB, NEW MEXICO; PEASE AFB, NEW HAMPSHIRE; FAIRCHILD AFB, WASHINGTON; THULE AB, GREENLAND; EIELSON OR ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA; AND GOOSE BAY AIR BASE, CANADA. FLIGHTS WILL BE PROFILED TO RUN IN AN EASTERLY OR WESTERLY DIRECTION IN THAT PORTION OF CANADA BETWEEN 70 DEGREES AND 75 DEGREES NORTH AT ALTITUDES BETWEEN 25,000 - 40,000 FEET. SPECIFIC ROUTES AND ALTITUDES FOR INDIVIDUAL FLIGHTS WILL BE SUPPLIED TO USDAO, OTTAWA, 7 DAYS BEFORE EACH FLIGHT. NORMAL FLIGHT PLANS WILL BE FILED PRIOR TO EACH FLIGHT FOR AIR ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL (ARTC) PURPOSES. ROUTES WILL BE PLANNED TO COMPLY WITH NORMAL CANADIAN FLIGHT CLEARANCE PROCEDURES.

4. THIS PROJECT, AS WELL AS THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REQUEST, IS CLASSIFIED ONLY AS PERTAINS TO A FOREIGN OPERATING RIGHT UNDER CONSIDERATION BY HOST GOVERNMENT AND MAY BE DECLASSIFIED WHEN NEGOTIATIONS FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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SAME HAVE BEEN TERMINATED. TECHNICAL INFORMATION OBTAINED ON THESE SCIENTIFIC FLIGHTS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GOC UPON REQUEST.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY OBTAIN APPROVAL OF GOC FOR OVERFLIGHT/ STAGING AS DESCRIBED HEREIN TO BEGIN DECEMBER 1973 AND EXTENDING THROUGH JULY 1976. RUSH

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